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<u>Amendments to the claims</u> (this listing replaces all prior versions):

1. (Previously presented) A system for managing a personal view for a user comprising:

a proxy to track web pages that have been accessed by the user and extract a topic page from the web pages;

a personal view constructor to build the personal view as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page extracted by the proxy, the categories in the personal view being selected from a group of predefined categories; and

a personal view maintainer, which adjusts the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories.

2. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the personal view constructor builds the personal view by mapping the topic page into a selected category in a superset of categories and updating a corresponding category in the hierarchy.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the selected category has a category vector that is most similar to a keyword vector of the topic page.

4. (Original) The system of claim 2 wherein the corresponding category is an ancestor of the selected category in the superset of categories if the selected category is not in the hierarchy.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the personal view maintainer splits off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a pre-determined threshold.

6. (Original) The system of claim 5 wherein the personal view maintainer chooses the child category that maximizes a gain value.

7.   (Original) The system of claim 1 wherein the personal view maintainer periodically reduces the energy value of each of the categories.

8.   (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the personal view maintainer removes a child category from the hierarchy if the energy value of the child category is below a pre-determined threshold.

9.   (Original) The system of claim 7 wherein the personal view maintainer merges information of the child category with information of the child category's parent in the hierarchy.

10.   (Original) The system of claim 1 further comprising a personal view display to display the hierarchy of categories.

11.   (Previously presented) A method for managing a personal view for a user comprising:

tracking web pages that have been accessed by the user;

extracting a topic page from the web pages;

building the personal view as a hierarchy of categories based on the topic page, the categories in the personal view being selected from a group of predefined categories; and

adjusting the hierarchy according to an energy value of each of the categories.

12.   (Original) The method of claim 11 wherein building the personal view further comprises:

mapping the topic page into a selected category in a superset of categories; and

updating a corresponding category in the hierarchy.

13.   (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the selected category has a category vector most similar to a keyword vector of the topic page.

14.   (Original) The method of claim 12 further comprising choosing the corresponding category that is an ancestor of the selected category in the superset of categories.

15.   (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising splitting off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a pre-determined threshold.

16.   (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising choosing the child category that maximizes a gain value.

17.   (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising periodically reducing the energy value of each of the categories.

18.   (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising removing a child category from the hierarchy if the energy value of the child category is below a pre-determined threshold.

19.   (Original) The method of claim 17 further comprising merging information of the child category with information of the child category's parent in the hierarchy.

20.   (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising alerting the user that new information has been added to the categories.

21-24. (Cancelled)

25.   (Currently amended) A method comprising:

assigning an energy value to each category of a hierarchy of categories of web pages, the energy value of a category representing a user's degree of interest in the category, the energy value of a category being increased when a user accesses web pages belonging to that category; and

adjusting the hierarchy of categories based on the energy value ~~values~~ of each of the categories.

26.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 wherein adjusting the hierarchy of categories based on the energy value of each of the categories includes splitting off a child category from a parent category in the hierarchy if the energy value of the parent category is above a pre-determined threshold, indicating that the user's interest in the parent category is above a certain threshold.

27.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 25 in which adjusting the hierarchy of categories includes removing a child category from the hierarchy if the energy value of the child category is below a pre-determined threshold, indicating that the user's interest in the child category is below a certain threshold.

28.   (Currently amended) The method of claim 25 in which when the user accesses new web pages belonging to a category, the energy value of the category is increased by an amount based on cosine similarities between a category vector associated with the category and the new web pages, the category vector defining a topic of interest associated with the category.

29.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 25, further comprising periodically reducing the energy value of each of the categories.

30.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 1 in which the energy value of a category represents a user's degree of interest in the category.

31.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 30 in which the energy value of a category is increased when a user accesses web pages belonging to that category.

32.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 31 in which when the user accesses new web pages belonging to a category, the energy value of the category is increased based on cosine similarities between a category vector associated with the category and the new web pages, the category vector defining a topic of interest associated with the category.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11 in which the energy value of a category represents a user's degree of interest in the category.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33, further comprising increasing the energy value of a category when the user accesses web pages belonging to that category.

35. (Currently amended) The method of claim 34, further comprising, when the user accesses new web pages belonging to a category, increasing the energy value of the category by an amount based on cosine similarities between a category vector associated with the category and the new web pages, the category vector defining a topic of interest associated with category.